

And in and by the same act it is provided that if any sum or sums of money which shall be loaned to the said company, under the authority of the said act shall be by the allowance, authority or connivance of the President and Directors of the said company, or of any of them, applied to any use or purpose, not within the proper scope meaning or authority of said act, or of its charter of incorporation, the person or persons, so allowing, authorizing, or conniving at the misapplication of the funds loaned by this State, shall be held liable jointly, or severally in their individual capacity at any time, to pay and refund to the State, the amount thus improperly applied or expended.

And whereas, it is abundantly proved by evidence, collected by a joint committee of both houses, and laid before the General Assembly, at its late session, that more than five hundred thousand dollars, parcel of the monies received by the said Chesapeake and Ohio canal company, under the authority of the aforesaid act, have been applied by the aforesaid President and Directors, to purposes not within the proper scope meaning or authority of the aforesaid act, whereby the construction of the said canal has been delayed, and it has been made necessary for the completion thereof, that further loans should be contracted on the credit and on a pledge of the property of the people of this State,

And whereas, it is justly to be apprehended, that connivance on the part of this General Assembly, in the aforesaid violation of the plain letter, and manifest intention of the aforesaid enactment, that the said President and Directors, and the President and Directors of other corporations to whom this State may contribute, may be emboldened in future times, to prefer their private interests to the public good, and to substitute their private will for the public law;

And whereas, it is the solemn duty of this General Assembly, of the State, to examine into the conduct of those who are entrusted with the expenditures of the public monies, and to visit with the wholesome terrors of the law, such delinquents as cannot be restrained by milder sanctions, it is therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, that the Attorney General of this State, forthwith enquire into the manner in which the Chesapeake and Ohio canal company, or the President and Directors thereof, have applied the monies which were received by the said company, from